PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ALBANY NY 800 AM EDT MON MAY 2 2016

THIS IS AIR QUALITY AWARENESS WEEK

THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT AIR QUALITY AND HOW IT AFFECTS YOUR HEALTH.

EACH DAY OF AIR QUALITY AWARENESS WEEK WILL FEATURE A UNIQUE TOPIC RELEVANT TO EDUCATION AND PREPAREDNESS.

TODAY WE HIGHLIGHT TWO TYPES OF AIR POLLUTION: OZONE AND PARTICLE POLLUTION.

THESE ARE TWO COMMON POLLUTANTS FOUND IN MANY PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

OZONE IS A COLORLESS ODORLESS GAS. IT IS THE SAME GAS THAT IS FOUND IN THE OZONE LAYER, HIGH IN THE EARTH'S STRATOSPHERE WHERE IT PROTECTS US FROM THE SUN'S ULTRAVIOLET ENERGY. BUT AT GROUND LEVEL WHERE WE LIVE, OZONE POLLUTION IS UNHEALTHY TO BREATHE.

PARTICLE POLLUTION OR AIRBORNE PARTICLE POLLUTION CONSISTS OF MICROSCOPIC PARTICLES IN THE AIR. DEPENDING ON WHERE YOU LIVE, IT CAN BE A PROBLEM IN THE WINTER AND/OR SUMMER. LIKE OZONE, PARTICLE POLLUTION IS NOT HEALTHY TO BREATHE. THE PARTICLES ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO HAZE WHICH BLURS THE VIEW IN MANY CITIES AND NATIONAL PARKS.

TOMORROW WE WILL LEARN HOW THESE POLLUTANTS FORM AND CREATE POOR AIR QUALITY CONDITIONS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON AIR QUALITY AWARENESS WEEK, VISIT US AT WWW.AIRQUALITY.NOAA.GOV. THAT'S WWW.AIRQUALITY.NOAA.GOV.